

Message Text

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65

ACTION PC-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 EB-07 /080 W

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R 131230Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2704

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 029

STATE FOR PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR DELLENBACK

TEHRAN FOR FLEMING

E.O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS : N/A

SUBJECT : FUTURE OF PEACE CORPS IN BAHRAIN

1. DURING QUENTIN FLEMING'S LATEST VISIT TO BAHRAIN, AMBASSADOR CALLED WITH HIM ON FOREIGN MINISTER TO REVIEW STATUS OF PEACE CORPS ACTIVITIES AND TO DISCUSS PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE OF PEACE CORPS.

2. IN DISCUSSION, FOREIGN MINISTER MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS ARE EXTREMELY WELCOME IN BAHRAIN AND THAT, WHILE GOB WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS RESIDENT, IT RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF ASSIGNING VOLUNTEERS ONLY TO THOSE JOBS WHERE THEY WOULD BE LIKELY TO FIND IT A PROFESSIONALLY AND CULTURALLY REWARDING EXPERIENCE. FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED GOB'S FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT BECAUSE PEACE CORPS MEMBERS SERVE ON VOLUNTARY BASIS, IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO FILL POSITIONS WHICH GOB HAS REQUESTED AND PEACE CORPS HAS UNDERTAKEN TO FILL.

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3. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, FOREIGN MINISTER SPOKE WITH

SOME ELOQUENCE AND OBVIOUS SINCERITY ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO PEACE CORPS PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO LONG-TERM U.S.-BAHRAINI FRIENDSHIP. HIS MAIN THRUST WAS THAT AMERICAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, WHETHER THROUGH PRIVATE, PEACE CORPS, OR AID CHANNELS, MAKES A TANGIBLE AND PERSONALIZED CONTRIBUTION TO BAHRAIN'S DEVELOPMENT AND HENCE IN HIS VIEW IS SIGNIFICANTLY MORE EFFECTIVE THAN CAPITAL LENDING OR MILITARY AID.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAMA00029
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760012-0606
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760163/aaaacdox.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : FUTURE OF PEACE CORPS IN BAHRAIN
TAGS: AFSP, BA, PC
To: STATE TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006